

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Oil is recovered from a borehole using a pump using a surface driven high rotary speed pump. In one aspect, the pump is a centrifugal pump, operated at speeds in excess of 3400 rpm. The pump is located in a downhole position, within a production zone of a wellbore. A drive rod extends from a wellhead, downwardly through the wellbore, where it is received in engagement with the impeller of the pump. A dampening element is disposed in conjunction with the rod to reduce the physical excursion of the rod and thus enable high-speed rotation of the rod with minimal risk of excursion related failure of the rod or wellbore.